

|                               |                 |                 |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | Application No. | Applicant(s)    |  |
|                               | 09/337,181      | NAKAMURA ET AL. |  |
|                               | Examiner        | Art Unit        |  |
|                               | Khanh Dinh      | 2151            |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/30/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-6, 8, 12, 13, 15 and 17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

*Khanh Dinh*  
*Primary Examiner*

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Anne Vachon Dougherty (the Undersigned Attorney, Reg. No.30,374) on 6/12/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 7, 9-11, 14, 16, 18-20.

Please **amend** claims as follows:

--1-2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 5 ~~claim 2~~, wherein said messaging policy data is defined for each type of message.

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 5 ~~claim 2~~, wherein said messaging policy data defines the number of agents which receive the message for each type of message.

5. (currently amended) A method for multicasting a retrieval request message to more than one of a plurality of mobile request handling agents, comprising the steps of:  
receiving a packet comprising a retrieval request message and non-address preferential destination information for said retrieval request as designated by a user;  
dynamically creating a list of destinations that can respond to said retrieval request, said list comprising more than one of said plurality of mobile request handling agents to whom said message is to be sent, by referring to said retrieval request and said non-address preferential destination information; and  
sending said message to said list of more than one of said plurality of mobile request handling agents determined as destinations for responding to said retrieval request,  
~~The method according to claim 2,~~ wherein said determining step comprises referring to messaging policy data defining priorities of agents to which said message can be sent, and further comprises a step of: using said priorities of agents defined in said messaging policy data and pairs of agent names and priorities included in said non-address preferential destination information to determine destination agents from an agent having highest priority.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 5 ~~claim 4~~, further comprising a step of: sending information concerning agents which are not determined as destination agents and said message to a representative agent which represents agents to which said message can be sent.

7. (canceled)

8. (original) The method according to claim 6, wherein said representative agent generates a response message for a source agent of a message, by referring to information from preregistered agents to which said message can be sent.

9-11 (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A computer comprising:  
an execution environment for a plurality of mobile request handling agents;  
a message monitor for receiving a packet, comprising a retrieval request message and non-address preferential destination information designated by a user, from an agent being active in the execution environment for said mobile agents, and for dynamically creating a list of destinations that can respond to said retrieval request, said list comprising more than one of said plurality of mobile agents to whom said message is to be sent by referring to said retrieval request and said non-address preferential destination information, and for multicasting said messages to said list of more than one of said plurality of mobile request handling agents determined as destination agents for responding to said retrieval request; and  
a storage device storing a messaging policy data defining priorities of agents to which said message can be sent;

~~The computer according to claim 11,~~ wherein said message monitor determines, by using said priorities of agents defined in said messaging policy data and pairs of agent names and priorities

included in said non-address preferential destination information, destination agents from an agent having highest priority.

13. (currently amended) The computer according to claim 12 ~~claim 10~~, wherein said message monitor sends information concerning agents which are not determined as destination agents and said message to a representative agent which represents agents to which said message can be sent.

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) A storage medium for storing a program executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform method steps for multicasting a retrieval request message to more than one of a plurality of mobile request handling agents, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a packet comprising a retrieval request message and non-address preferential destination information for said retrieval request as designated by a user;

dynamically creating a list of destinations that can respond to said retrieval request, said list comprising more than one of said plurality of mobile request handling agents to whom said message is to be sent, by referring to said retrieval request and said non-address preferential destination information; and

sending said message to said list of more than one of said plurality of mobile request handling agents determined as destinations for responding to said retrieval request,

wherein said determining step comprises referring to messaging policy data defining priorities of agents to which said message can be sent, and further comprises a step of: using said priorities of agents defined in said messaging policy data and pairs of agent names and priorities included in said non-address preferential destination information to determine destination agents from an agent having highest priority.

16. (canceled)

17. (original) The storage medium according to claim 15, wherein said program further comprises a step of: sending information concerning agents which are not determined as destinations and said message to a representative agent which represents agents to which said message can be sent.

18-20. (canceled)--

***Reason for allowance***

2. This communication warrants no examiner's reason for allowance, as applicant's reply makes evident the reason for allowance, satisfying the record as whole as required by rule 37 CFR 1.104(e). In this case, the substance of applicant's remarks filed on 3/30/2006 with respect to the added claim limitation point out the reason claims are patentable over the prior art of record. Thus, the reason for allowance is in all probability evident from the record and no statement for examiner's reason for allowance is necessary (see MPEP 13202.14).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 3-6, 8, 12, 13, 15 and 17 are allowed.

**Conclusion**

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh Dinh whose telephone number is (571) 272-3936.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.m. to 5:00 P.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung, can be reached on (571) 272-3939. The fax phone number for this group is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Khanh Dinh*

Khanh Dinh  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2151  
6/12/2006